

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11

INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PM-09 H-02 L-03 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 OMB-01 RSR-01 /101 W

----- 108286

R 210710 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2507

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, JA, PR

SUBJECT: JAPANESE- PRC AVIATION TALKS

REF: TOKYO 2415

SUMMARY. IN RECENTLY CONCLUDED AVIATION TALKS IN PEKING, JAPANESE DESIRE DISCUSS ONLY TECHNICAL ISSUES SUCH AS LANDING AND BEYOND RIGHTS WAS MET BY CHINESE STATEMENTS THAT JAPAN COULD NOT BY- PASS ISSUE OF TAIWAN AIR SERVICE. NO VISIBLE PREGRESS MADE TOWARD AGREEMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. JAPANESE AVIATION NEGOTIATING TEAM RETURNED FROM PEKING MAR 18 AFTER MORE THAN WEEK OF TALKS WITH PRC AVIATION TEAM. IT EVIDENT BY PRESS REPORTS AND CONTACTS WITH FONOFF TWO

SIDES FOUND IT VERY DIFFICULT EVEN TO AGREE ON BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

2. CHINESE SIDE OBVIOUSLY WAS STRESSING MATTERS OF " PRINCIPLE", I. E. STATUS OF JAL' S SERVICE TO TAIWAN DURING PEKING TALKS. IN INTERVIEW GIVEN TO YOMIURI CORRESPONDENT IN PEKING ON MAR 11, LIAO CHENG- CHIH HEAD OF CHINA- JAPAN FRIENDSHIP ASSN. SAID THAT ATTITUDE OF GOJ AT THAT POINT RE AVIATION AGREEMENT
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WAS CONTRARY TO SPIRIT OF JAPAN- CHINA JOINT COMMUNIQUE. THERE WOULD BE NOTHING BETTER THAN QUICK AGREEMENT FOR DIRECT FLIGHTS; HOWEVER, THE PROBLEM WAS TAIWAN AFTER ALL. LIAO ADDED IT WOULD BE A PROBLEM IF THE ROUTES (BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN) ARE KEPT AS THEY ARE. THAT WOULD MEAN " TWO CHINAS" AND WE CANNOT ACCEPT THAT IN ANY WAY.

3. WANG HSIAO- YUN, FOREIGN MINISTRY ASIAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL WHO HEADED PRC SIDE, ALSO REPORTEDLY STRESSED TO JAPANESE EARLY IN TALKS THAT THEY COULD NOT BYPASS THE ISSUE OF JAPAN- TAIWAN AIR SERVICE.

4. JAPANESE DELEGATION, ON OTHER HAND, WAS NOT AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS TAIWAN AIR SERVICE, BUT ONLY LANGUAGE OF AIR AGREEMENT, INCLUDING LANDING AND BEYOND RIGHTS. TWO DELEGATIONS WERE THUS AT LOGGERHEADS FOR MOST OF THE CONFERENCE, THOUGH JAPANESE REPORTEDLY CONCEDED TOWARD END OF SESSION THAT IT WOULD CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS SOLELY IN ACCORD WITH SPIRIT OF SEPT 29 JAPAN- CHINA JOINT COMMUNIQUE " WITHOUT SKIPPING THE PROBLEMS CONCERNING BASIC PRINCIPLES".

5. SOURCE IN CHINA DIV OF FONOFF (WHO PARTICIPATED IN TALKS) SUMMED UP RESULTS AS FOLLOW: 1) NO DATE WAS SET FOR FURTHER TALKS, BUT IT CLEAR THAT SOME INFORMAL TALKS BETWEEN EMBASSIES WILL HAVE TO PRECEDE FURTHER FORMAL TALKS; 2) NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON LANDING OR BEYOND RIGHTUVM ON THESEGNOINTS, CHINESE TABLED THEIR OWN DRAFT WHICH, THOUGH VAGUE, CLEARLY DIFFERED FROM DRAFT AGREEMENT JAPANESE SIDE HAD TABLED 3) SINCE JAPANESE DEL HAD NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED TO DISCUSS " POLITICAL QUESTIONS" OBVIOUSLY NO AGREEMNT HAD BEEN REACHED ON TAIWAN ISSUE. RE SECOND POINT, IN PRESS CONFERENCE AFTERNOON OF MAR 20 FONMIN OHIRA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE CHINESE HAD BEEN BASICALLY NEGATIVE ON THE QUESTION OF BEYOND RIGHTS FROM PRC.

6. TAIWAN REPS IN TOKYO MADE THEIR INPUT SHORTLY AFTER TALKS CONCLUDED IN PEKING. MAH I O- LAY,# HEAD OF TOKYO OFFICE

OF EAST ASIA ASSOCIATION WARNED GOJ IN A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT JAL FLIGHTS TO TAIWAN COULD BE VERY SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY A CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA. HE ALSO HINGED THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME PROBLEM RAISED BY TAIWAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ABOUT JAPANESE AIRLINES OVERFLYING TAIWAN STRAITS IF PRIVATE

AVIATION AGREEMENT WITH TAIWAN WERE BROKEN.

7. COMMENT. GOJ NOW SEEMS TO BE CONSIDERING EITHER LIMITING
CAL LANDING RIGHTS IN JAPAN TO POINTS OUTSIDE OF TOKYO OR
REDUCING THE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS BETWEEN JAPAN AND TAIWAN.
INGERSOLL

NOTE BY OC/ T: # AS RECEIVED.

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